

BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION MEETING

MINUTES

Friday, November 3, 2017
Montana State Capitol Building, Room 152
Helena, MT

Friday November 3, 2017
8:30 AM

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Carroll called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM. The Pledge of Allegiance was said, and Ms. Stockton took roll call. Chair Carroll welcomed guests.

Board members present: Ms. Sharon Carroll, Chair; Dr. Darlene Schottle, Vice-Chair; Ms. Tammy Lacey; Mr. Jesse Barnhart; Ms. Mary Jo Bremner; Ms. Anne Keith; Mr. Scott Stearns; Ms. Molly De Marco, Student Representative; Ms. Angela McLean, Commissioner of Higher Education; Ms. Siri Smilie, Governor Bullock's Office; Superintendent Elsie Arntzen, Office of Public Instruction. Staff members present: Mr. Pete Donovan, Executive Director; Ms. Kris Stockton, Administrative Assistant. Guests present: Mr. Rob Stutz, Agency Legal Services, Ms. Donna Sorenson, Superintendent Montana School for the Deaf and Blind; Dr. Tim Tharp, OPI; Dr. Linda Peterson, OPI, Ms. Susan Court, OPI; Ms. Patty Muri, OPI; Ms. Sue Mohr, OPI; Mr. Scott Furois, OPI; Ms. Jessica Eilertson, OPI; Dr. Cindy O'Dell, Big Fork; Ms. Kristine Thatcher, OPI; Mr. Kyle Moen, Chief Legal Counsel, OPI; Dr. Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana; Mr. Webb Brown, MT Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Dennis Parman, Montana Rural Educators Association; Ms. Dianne Burke, Montana Quality Education Coalition; Ms. Cony Bily, Stone Child College; Ms. Kadene Drummer, Stone Child College

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda approved as presented.

ADOPT AGENDA

Mr. Scott Stearns moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Mary Jo Bremner seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion approved unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

❖ REPORTS – Sharon Carroll (Items 1-6)

Item 1

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – 10 minutes **Sharon Carroll**

Chair Carroll reported on the recent MEA-MFT conference and session on "Who Governs Education in Montana?" that included the BPE, OCHE, the Governor's Office, and OPI which was well attended. Also

Dr. Schottle and Ms. Tammy Lacey attended the MCEL conference as well. Dr. Schottle congratulated Ms. Lacey on her Superintendent of the Year Award and the Erickson Award for 2017. Chair Carroll called for volunteers for Chair of the Assessment committee, Accreditation Committee, Legislative Committee, and MSDB.

- **BPE Committee Assignments**

Chair Carroll directed Committee Chairs to contact BPE staff with any questions regarding agenda items once the Agenda Packet has been posted, and the staff will contact OPI for answers to questions, or arrange a conference call if necessary for continued discussions. A discussion was held to discuss the best method to handle pre-meeting communications between OPI and Board members.

Item 2 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – 15 minutes**
Pete Donovan

Mr. Donovan updated the Board on his recent attendance at the Complete College Montana Summit in Missoula. Additionally, Mr. Donovan discussed the upcoming meeting of the Education Interim Committee Meeting in Bozeman which he will be attending where Gifted and Talented Education will be discussed. Ms. McLean added that OCHE is also working on the Gifted and Talented discussion with the Educator Preparation Programs in Montana. Mr. Donovan also discussed a meeting earlier this week he had with Dr. Linda Peterson, Mr. TJ Eyer, and Ms. Angela McLean to talk about possible CTE credits for Computer Coding. A future meeting will be set up to begin discussions on this topic. Dr. Donovan also mentioned the MT Science Assessment meeting he will be attending, plus an invitation from the Governor's office for a Board member to be in a Computer Science policy group. Dr. Schottle will be attending representing the BPE in this group and will be attending the meeting in Atlanta.

Item 3 **STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – 15 minutes**
State Superintendent Elsie Arntzen

Dr. Tharp gave the update for the OPI. Budget wise the agency is in “wait and see” mode pending the Governor’s decision regarding possible budget cuts and a Special Session of the Legislature. Dr. Tharp discussed the “Celebrating Innovative Learning” conference Nov 30-Dec 1. This was previously the “Alternative Learning Conference”. The Digital Academy, Dual Credit, Personalized Learning, Public Charter Schools, and many other topics will be discussed. Montana Youth Challenge will also be at the conference. The Math Task Force continues to have ongoing discussions and will be adding members to the committee. Bus Standards revisions for Type E buses per new legislation, HB 355, will be upcoming at the January BPE meeting. Dr. Tharp fielded questions from the Board regarding budget cuts and unfilled positions at the OPI.

Item 4 **COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION'S REPORT – 15 minutes**
Angela McLean

Ms. McLean updated the Board on the Educator's Rising group that attended the MEA-MFT Annual Conference. The group convened prior to the conference and toured the UM and the Education Preparation Program facilities on the UM campus. This is the pilot year of the Educator's Rising program and the program will be working to expand for the 2018-2019 school year. The Educator Recruitment and Retention Task Force has reconvened and expanded membership for this year. One project the group is working on is Prior Learning Assessment to give credit to Para Professionals, for example, to give credit for experience. EDU 101 will also be reviewed. Chair Carroll asked what the EDU 101 curriculum looks like. Ms. DeMarco and Ms. Lacey reviewed the content of the class which meets every day of the school week.

Item 5 **GOVERNOR'S OFFICE REPORT – 15 minutes**
Siri Smillie

Ms. Smillie updated the Board on the most recent budget happenings. The Governor is working with Legislative Leadership to come up with additional ways to meet the cashflow concerns in addition to cutting agency budgets. A plan of 1/3 budget cuts, 1/3 temporary taxes, and 1/3 monetary transfers is on the table right now. STARS preschool pilot program has added a few classrooms, so 21 classes are

being held and nearly 400 students are participating in the program. Ms. Smillie invited Board members to visit preschools in their communities to see how the programs works. Ms. Smillie also discussed the Code.org planning summit that Dr. Schottle will be attending along with folks from the Governor's Office, Dr. Watson, Superintendent of Bozeman Public Schools, and Susie Hedalen from OPI who is heading the team. Work based learning programs are also still being reviewed in conjunction with the National Governor's Association. Dr. Schottle commented on a visit she made to the Preschool program at Flathead Valley Community College. Ms. Lacey commented on the budget concerns she has with the proposed cuts.

Item 6 **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT – 15 minutes**
Molly DeMarco

Ms. DeMarco updated the Board discussing College Application Week for students to apply to any in-state college at no cost. CMR high school is selling "406 Strong" t-shirts to raise money for the firefighting season. Ms. DeMarco discussed Educator's Rising and the experience she had at the MEA-MFT Conference, and she discussed some of the presentations they had from Ms. McLean, Mr. Kelly Elder, and Mr. Mike Jetty. Ms. DeMarco thanked Ms. McLean for setting up the opportunity for her and her fellow EDU101 students.

DISCUSSION

❖ **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – Sharon Carroll (Items 8-12)**

Item 8 **FEDERAL UPDATE – 10 minutes**
Dr. Tim Tharp

Dr. Tharp gave the Federal Update with the latest ESSA work and federal funding.

Item 9 **YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY UPDATE – 10 minutes**
Susan Court

Ms. Court presented the Board with the 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey Report and passed out a flip pamphlet summarizing the results of the survey. Ms. Court reviewed how the survey is set up, and how the questions and responses are grouped together. Ms. Court reviewed new questions posed this year regarding physical activity, concussions, and homelessness. Ms. Court fielded questions from Board members.

Item 10 **SUICIDE PREVENTION RULE CHANGE UPDATE – 15 minutes**
Dr. Tim Tharp

Dr. Tharp announced that Dr. Peterson is spearheading the committee on this rule change and OPI requests the public to apply to be part of the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee. Dr. Schottle noted that the application date has passed and asked if a good cross section of applicants was received. Dr. Peterson noted that 18 applications were received and the committee is reviewing the applications and decisions will be made in the coming week.

ACTION

PUBLIC COMMENT

The public will be afforded the opportunity to comment before the Board on every action item on the agenda prior to final Board action.

Item 11 **APPROVAL OF CRITICAL QUALITY EDUCATOR SHORTAGES REPORT – 15 minutes**
Sue Mohr, Scott Furois

Ms. Mohr introduced the report to the Board and reviewed the process. Mr. Furois presented a Power Point presentation of the report noting new areas the report captured this year for specific licenses or areas of endorsement. Mr. Furois answered Board member questions.

Ms. Mary Jo Bremner moved to Approve the Critical Quality Educator Shortages Report. Mr. Scott Stearns seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

❖ MSDB LIAISON - Mary Jo Bremner (Item 7)

**Item 7 MSDB REPORT – 20 minutes
Donna Sorensen**

Ms. Sorensen updated the Board with the most recent happenings at the MSDB.

*******EXECUTIVE SESSION – CLOSED*******

❖ MSDB LIAISON - Mary Jo Bremner (Item 20)

**Item 20 MSDB SUPERINTENDENT PERFORMANCE – 30 minutes
Mary Jo Bremner**

*******EXECUTIVE SESSION – OPENED*******

12:25 Lunch Break

1:00 Reconvene

**Item 12 BUS STANDARDS RULES REVISION – 15 minutes
Dr. Tim Tharp**

Dr. Tharp reviewed for the Board the issues districts are having with the cost of the Stop Arm mechanism on buses and requested that the Board approve the OPI request to make this safety feature permissive rather than mandatory. Mr. Rob Stutz reviewed how the Board can do this and how the Administrative Rules of Montana process works to amend a rule without a public hearing. Discussion ensued about timing, if the rule change would be sufficient for 2nd semester bus inspections, and if this rule change addressed all the concerns from the field.

Ms. Tammy Lacey moved to approve the notice of proposed amendment with no hearing as discussed. Motion seconded by Mr. Scott Stearns.

Public comment from Mr. Dennis Parman, MREA

Mr. Rob Stutz proposed amending the motion to include allowing non-substantive changes to the rules and Bus Standards.

Motion amended by Ms. Lacey to include amending non-substantive changes to the rules and Bus Standards. Motion seconded by Mr. Scott Stearns.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

❖ **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE – Darlene Schottle (Items 13)**

Item 13 **CSIP AND TEAMS STATUS – 15 minutes**
Patty Muir

Ms. Patty Muir addressed the Board regarding a request from a previous meeting when the Board asked for a follow up report of schools in Step 2 of the Intensive Assistance program, indicating if their issue has been resolved, and where they are in the accreditation process.

❖ **ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE – Sharon Carroll (Item 14)**

Item 14 **ASSESSMENT UPDATE – 15 minutes**
Jessica Eilertson, Sue Mohr

Ms. Jessica Eilertson discussed SCILLSS – Strengthening Claims-based Interpretations and uses of Local and Large-Scale Science Assessment Scores, a grant the office received to assist with a new science assessment to align with the new Science Standards. A science task force has been organized with a first meeting November 13, 2017 in Helena. Ms. Eilertson also discussed that cut scores have now been designed for the ACT to meet federal requirements. The ACT, SBAC, and MSAA will be submitted for Peer Review by December 29, 2017. Ms. Mary Jo Bremner asked that Science teachers from reservation schools be added to the science task force and Ms. Eilertson indicated that one reservation teacher has been added to the technical advisory committee to represent Indian Education for All.

❖ **LICENSURE COMMITTEE – Tammy Lacey (Items 15-19)**

*****TIME CERTAIN 2:00 PM*****

Item 19 **BPE CASE #2017-03, MCLAREN – 15 minutes**
Rob Stutz, Kyle Moen

Mr. Stutz noted that this item first came before the Board in July when the parties requested a stay until November. Mr. Moen, Chief Legal Counsel, OPI, updated the Board on the latest status of the case. Mr. Moen is working with the educator's legal counsel regarding the possibility of the educator surrendering his license. If that happens, Mr. Moen will update the Board with that information in January. If the educator does not surrender, the matter will move to hearing in March.

ACTION

PUBLIC COMMENT

The public will be afforded the opportunity to comment before the Board on every action item on the agenda prior to final Board action.

Item 16 **RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF PROVISIONAL ACCREDITATION FOR
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION PROGRAM: STONE CHILD COLLEGE - 15
minutes**
Dr. Linda Peterson

Dr. Peterson introduced the new President of Stone Child College, Cony Bily, and the Dean of the Education School at Stone Child College, Ms. Kadene Drummer. Dr. Peterson reviewed the process the school has undertaken to become an accredited Educator Preparation Program in Elementary Education according to the Chapter 58 Standards.

Ms. Tammy Lacey moved to approve provisional accreditation effective January 1, 2018 of the Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and the Educator Preparation Program at Stone Child College. Ms. Anne Keith seconded the motion.

Ms. Angela McLean commended the school on their efforts, as did Ms. Lacey who also offered Great Falls Public Schools as placement for Stone Child student teachers.

Ms. Bily thanked everyone and spoke about how proud their community is of the efforts towards this program.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 18

RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE STATE EXIT REPORT OF THE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDER (EPP) IN THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AT MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BILLINGS (MSUB)

Dr. Linda Peterson – 10 minutes

Dr. Peterson briefly reviewed the process of Accreditation MSU-Billings has undergone for both State Accreditation and CAEP Accreditation. The school has received preliminary approval from CAEP this week with official notice forthcoming. Dr. Mary Susan Fishbaugh spoke via conference phone to the process the university has undergone for accreditation and thanked the Board.

Ms. Tammy Lacey moved to approve the State Exit report and Regular Accreditation status of the Educator Preparation Provider in the College of Education at MSU-Billings. Motion seconded by Mr. Jesse Barnhart.

Comment by Ms. McLean congratulating MSU-Billings.

No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 15

CARROLL COLLEGE: RECOMMEND APPROVAL FOR ELEMENTARY AND SPECIAL EDUCATION COMBINED MAJOR – 15 minutes

Dr. Linda Peterson

Dr. Peterson briefly reviewed this new program which was first presented to the Board in September.

Ms. Tammy Lacey moved to approve the combined major in Elementary and Special Education in the Teacher Education Program at Carroll College. Motion seconded by Dr. Darlene Schottle.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 17

MONTANA MINIMUM SCORES FOR PRAXIS SUBJECT ASSESSMENT: LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALIST AND SOCIOLOGY – 15 minutes

Dr. Linda Peterson

Dr. Peterson discussed the work the PRAXIS Working Committee has accomplished and the numerous meetings they've held. That work has resulted in new recommendations for Library Media Specialist and Sociology PRAXIS minimum assessment scores.

Ms. Tammy Lacey moved to approve the Montana Minimum Scores on PRAXIS Subject Assessments of 150 for Library Media Specialist (5341) and of 154 for Sociology (5952) pursuant to ARM 10.57.410(3). Ms. Mary Jo Bremner seconded the motion.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Diane Burke, MT PEC, distributed the 2018 MT PEC report of their annual opinion poll and briefly reviewed the results.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS January 19, 2018 – Helena, MT, Conference Call Meeting

Exiting Board Member – Last Meeting and Recognition

MSDB Superintendent Contract Extension

Transportation Report

MACIE Update

School Nutrition Annual Report

Assessment Update

Federal Update

Accreditation Report

Teacher Licensure Report

ADJOURN

Ms. Mary Jo Bremner motioned to adjourn. Mr. Jesse Barnhart seconded.

No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 2:44PM.

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